

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 03134 081143Z
ACTION DOTE-00

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BRUSSELS FOR FAA

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, NL
SUBJECT: VISIT TO NETHERLANDS BY SECRETARY ADAMS

REF: STATE 90001

1. SUMMARY: SECRETARY ADAMS CONCLUDED A SUCCESSFUL FOUR-DAY VISIT TO THE NETHERLANDS JUNE 6. HE DELIVERED A MAJOR SPEECH ON THE NETHERLANDS-U.S. MODEL CIVIL AIR AGREEMENT TO AN AUDIENCE OF DUTCH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND AMERICAN AND DUTCH BUSINESSMEN. HE ALSO DISCUSSED AVIATION AND SHIPPING MATTERS WITH TRANSPORT MINISTER TIJUNMAN. END SUMMARY.

2. THE HIGHLIGHT OF SECRETARY ADAMS' FOUR-DAY VISIT TO THE NETHERLANDS JUNE 3-6 WAS THE SPEECH HE GAVE TO THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN THE NETHERLANDS IN WHICH HE CALLED THE AVIATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE NETHERLANDS THE MODEL FOR FUTURE AIR PACTS. HE SAID BOTH NATIONS AGREE THAT FARES AND RATES SHOULD BE SET BY THE AIRLINES AND BE BASED PRIMARILY ON BUSINESS CONSIDERATIONS. GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION
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PAGE 02 THE HA 03134 081143Z

SHOULD BE LIMITED TO THE PREVENTION OF PREDATORY OR DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES, PROTECTION OF CONSUMERS FROM ABUSE OF MONOPLY POWER, AND PROTECTION OF AIRLINES FROM PRICES THAT ARE ARTIFICIALLY LOW BECAUSE OF DIRECT OR INDIRECT GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY OR SUPPORT. HE STATED THAT INJECTION OF COMPETITION INTO THE U.S. DOMESTIC AND NORTH ATLANTIC AIR TRAVEL MARKETS HAS PRODUCED STRIKING AND POSITIVE RESULTS.

3. DUTCH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FROM MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION TUIJNMAN AND STATE-SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORTATION SMIT-KROES DOWN TO WORKING LEVEL PERSONNEL IN THE MINISTRIES OF TRANSPORT, FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS TURNED OUT IN LARGE NUMBERS TO HEAR THE SECRETARY. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS WHO ATTENDED A QUESTION-AND-ANSWER SESSION WITH THE SECRETARY FOLLOWING THE SPEECH PICKED UP THE THEME THAT THE U.S. IS STRIVING FOR A MORE COMPETITIVE AVIATION SYSTEM. THE NETHERLANDS PRESS AGENCY GAVE THE ADDRESS THE WHOLE FIRST PAGE OF THE ENGLISH-LANGUAGE EDITION OF ITS DAILY NEWS BULLETIN. FOUR LEADING DUTCH DAILIES COVERED THE ADDRESS, THREE OF THEM IN DETAIL. THE TWO PRESTIGIOUS ECONOMIC NEWSPAPERS, ECONOMISCH DAGBLAD AND NRC HANDELSBLAD, RAN STORIES HEADLINED "U.S. TRANSPORTATION SECRETARY SAYS THAT COMPETITION SOLVES CAPACITY PROBLEMS" AND "AMERICANS OPPOSED TO GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION IN AIR TRAFFIC," RESPECTIVELY. NO DUTCH EDITORIAL COMMENT HAS APPEARED, AND WE ARE UNAWARE OF ANY REPORTS IN THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS, BUT WE DO KNOW THAT AP, UPI AND REUTERS WHICH COVERED THE SPEECH AND PRESS CONFERENCE FILED STORIES.

4. AT SECRETARY ADAMS' MEETING WITH MINISTER TIJNMAN AND OFFICIALS OF THE TRANSPORT MINISTRY JUNE 5, MINISTRY OFFICIALS DESCRIBED THEIR BROAD MANDATE AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND COVERED IN SOME DETAIL SUBJECTS OF DEEP WATER PORTS, ENERGY TRANSSHIPMENT AND PROBLEMS OF MARINE POLLUTION.
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PAGE 03 THE HA 03134 081143Z

5. STATE SECRETARY SMIT NOT ONLY ATTENDED THE LUNCHEON WHERE THE SECRETARY SPOKE AND JOINED HIM IN MEETING THE PRESS BUT ALSO ACCOMPANIED HIM ON A VISIT TO THE FOKKER COMPANY AND A FLIGHT ON AN F-27 OVER THE NORTH SEA CANAL, IJMUIDEN, ROTTERDAM'S EUROPORT, AND THE DELTA PROJECT, WHICH ENCLOSURES PARTS OF SOUTH HOLLAND AND ZEELAND FROM THE SEA. THE DAY ENDED WITH HER GIVING A DINNER FOR THE SECRETARY, MRS. ADAMS AND THE SECRETARY'S PARTY.

6. ON JUNE 3 THE CITY OF ROTTERDAM ORGANIZED A BOAT TRIP AROUND THE ROTTERDAM HARBOR WITH LUNCH ON BOARD AND OPPORTUNITY FOR THE SECRETARY TO DISCUSS CRUDE OIL WASHING TECHNIQUES WITH TECHNICAL EXPERTS.

7. KLM PRESIDENT ORLANDINI AND TWO OF HIS COLLEAGUES MET WITH THE SECRETARY AND MEMBERS OF HIS PARTY JUNE 3. THEY PRESENTED KLM'S CASE FOR SEEKING U.S. HELP IN COMBATING RESTRICTIONS BY GERMANY AND OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES ON FIFTH FREEDOM TRAFFIC BY CARRIERS SUCH AS KLM. THEY ALSO EMPHASIZED KLM ACCEPTANCE OF THE RISKS OF COMPETITION INHERENT IN THE NEW U.S. AVIATION POLICY.

8. THE FIRST VISIT TO THE NETHERLANDS BY A MEMBER OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S CABINET WAS A DISTINCT SUCCESS. THE SECRETARY AND HIS COLLEAGUES SHOWED GENUINE CONCERN FOR DUTCH VIEWS, ESPECIALLY BY EMPHASIZING THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO THE NEW U.S.- NETHERLANDS AVIATION AGREEMENT, AND THE DUTCH RESPONDED POSITIVELY. THEY DREW HEAVILY ON THEIR OWN EXPERIENCE IN THEIR DISCUSSIONS WITH SECRETARY ADAMS AND WERE CLEARLY DELIGHTED WITH THE THOUGHT THEY WERE CONTRIBUTING TO U.S. UNDERSTANDING OF VARIOUS PROBLEMS. WE GAINED TREMENDOUS GOODWILL AND ADDED USEFUL FUTURE CONTACTS.

9. U.S. INTERESTS HERE PROFIT SUBSTANTICALLY FROM SUCH HIGH LEVEL VISITS, AND WE STRONGLY HOPE OTHER CABINET OFFICERS WILL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 THE HA 03134 081143Z

INCLUDE THE NETHERLANDS ON THEIR ITINERARY. BROWN

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